

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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BACK-TO-SCHOOL JAMBOREE WILL OFFER FREE SCHOOL SUPPLIES

INDIANAPOLIS— State Rep. Vernon G. Smith (D-Gary) said the first 500 students who arrive at the Back-to-School Jamboree on Saturday, Sept. 10 will receive free school supplies.

"The sponsors have been very generous so we are able to offer supplies to the students who arrive early," said Dr. Smith. "When families are struggling to survive in today's economy, school supplies are an additional expense that strains the budget. We hope these supplies will help the families of those 500 students."

The three-on-three basketball tournament will take place from 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. inside Savannah Hall Gymnasium on the Indiana University Northwest campus. The film festival will run from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. inside Savannah Hall Auditorium. In addition, there will be a video game tournament, Double Dutch Jump Rope competition, and a dance contest.

For the younger children, there will be finger painting activities, face painting, and a drawing contest.

Disco Enterprises will provide music for the Jamboree from noon-5 p.m.

In addition, Dr. Smith mentioned that area youth-serving agencies will host exhibit booths to share what those agencies can offer students. Booths are available to organizations that offer these youth services or have products to sell. Booth space is \$25. One can telephone Dr. Smith at his office, 980-7120, or at his home, 887-2046 for more information.

There are several divisions for the basketball tournament, based on age and gender. The \$45 team registration fee helps defray costs for the trophies and other prizes. Participants will receive free t-shirts.

To register a team or learn more about the Jamboree, call Dr. Smith the above-mentioned numbers. Applications are available at the Beautiful Things store, 3570 Village Court in Gary.

The Jamboree is sponsored by Dr. Smith, State Rep. Charlie Brown, State Sen. Earline Rogers (all D-Gary), Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.-Alpha Kappa Kappa Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, the African-American Achievers Youth Corps, Inc. and the Lake County Office of Family and Children Services, Haywood Slemings & Associates, the *Gary Info News*, and the *Gary Crusader*.

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This release can be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.in.gov/R14>